

# PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Greeting Roughriders,

I hope this communication finds you well. As you all know, we had a shortened week with students only being here for two days. As always, thanks to all for your flexibility, especially to those parents with younger students who may need babysitting. Of course, our priority when canceling school is always the safety of our students especially those who travel by bus down roads that are full of snow or ice. Thanks for your support with this.

In our shortened week, our administrative team continued to work on our initiatives for this year and began outlining our upcoming professional development days. As I mentioned before, we have to balance the short and long term academic goals for the 22-23 school year and also prepare and hit important deadlines for the new RHS. To further illustrate the point, we will spend time this spring in evaluating as a staff how our instructional practices have changed in the Block schedule. Furthermore, we need to see how we can create universal, highly effective, instructional expectations based on teacher feedback moving forward this spring and over to the fall. We are also looking at our MTSS process for students who, despite our best efforts, haven't been successful with our Tier 1 or Tier 2 approach. Lastly, a quarter of our students are seniors, so we need to stay focused on helping them finish their academic time at RHS successfully, whatever their goal or pathway is post secondary.

On the other side of the planning spectrum, I had the pleasure of working with Office Scapes team regarding all furniture for the new building. We spent 3 hours going through and finalizing all 120+ spaces in the new building, making sure the furniture is what we need as a building and creating the most optimal learning environment for our students. It is incredibly exciting to see the spaces come together, whether they are our traditional classrooms, student commons, cafe commons, athletic field house, CTE, Career Counseling center, Performing Arts, Flex Spaces, or our outdoor campus. This is truly a wonderfully designed high school by our original District Design Team and then brought to life by our architects and construction teams.

As mentioned before, the master schedule is complete with altered bell schedules featuring just one lunch next year. The teachers have also been given a preliminary draft of room assignments per period. Of course, that may change slightly based on student interests with course selection this spring. Either way, we are ahead of schedule. One of the April PD days will most likely be spent on an all staff tour of the building, so they can see their space. As you can imagine, they are equally as excited about moving into new spaces that are a healthy learning environment for all. As always, please have a safe and restful weekend. Please contact me if you have questions or concerns. Don't forget to buy a brick paver for our new building. The deadline is 2/1/23.

David Benson  
RHS Principal